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INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 9798
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 9628
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 4422
RUEHKF/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 1036
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 6733
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 5657
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
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RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

Monday, 09 February 2009, 14:56

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 ISLAMABAD 000289

SIPDIS

EO 12958 DECL: 02/09/2019

TAGS FREL, PGOV, PTER, PK

SUBJECT: ZARDARI'S PLANNED APPROACH TO HOLBROOKE

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson, for reasons 1.4 (b)(d)

1. (C) Summary. During a February 8 meeting with the Ambassador, President Zardari outlined Pakistan's need for additional assistance, a message
2. (C) Ambassador called on President Zardari on February 8 to discuss the upcoming visit of Special Representative Holbrooke. Zardari said he
3. (C) Zardari told the Ambassador "not to worry" about his relations with Prime Minister Gilani. Ambassador said she was not worried, but she
4. (C) Zardari said he had excellent relations with Afghan President Karzai, but was under no illusions about his forthrightness. Zardari said
5. (C) Zardari was clearer than in previous meetings about his intention to move against Nawaz Sharif and predicted the Supreme Court would de
6. (C) Zardari said he was struggling over who would be named Chairman of the Senate after the Senate elections, now scheduled for March 4. Z
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7. (C) Zardari said he was going to replace NWFP Governor Ghani soon. He had not done so to date, as picking a replacement brought with it mul

8. (C) Ambassador saw Zardari at Bilawal House in Karachi. Zardari's father is in poor health and Zardari was reluctant to leave Karachi. The

9. (C) Bio Note: Embassy officers have been very impressed with Talpur, who is extremely energetic and well respected. Kayani once told the An